THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 14, 1981

Dear Mr. Azzam:

Thank you for your letter of March 5th, 1981.

Your kind words concerning my appointment are much appreciated, and I am hopeful that our administration will indeed build bridges of understanding between the people of the United States and the people of all the world, including Muslim peoples.

We are very concerned about the continuing occupation and subjugation of Afghanistan, once a neutral country. I share your observation that it is a "matter of grave concern."

Please be assured that we will continue to watch this situation as it develops, and that the United States will of course take the appropriate steps to reinforce the ties we have with a friendly Pakistan.

With every best wish,

Yours sincerely,

Richard V. Allen

Richard V. Allen
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

Mr. Salem Azzam
Secretary General
The International Islamic Council
16 Grosvenor Crescent
London SW1 7EP, ENGLAND

المجلس الإسلامي الدولي
The International Islamic Council

5 March 1981

Mr Richard V. Allen
National Security Advisor
The White House
Washington DC 20500

Dear Mr Allen,

I am sorry for being late in acknowledging your letter of 16 December 1980. This is partly due to my visit to Taif to attend the Summit Conference and then due to preparations for holding in the near future an International Conference on "Islam and Contemporary Society".

First of all let me convey my heartiest greetings, though belated, on your assignment as National Security Advisor. I hope that under your guidance your country will move towards building bridges of understanding between the people of the United States and the Muslim peoples.

President Reagan, in his letter to me of 28 July 1980, asked me not to hesitate to send any information or advice that I felt would be helpful. I should therefore be grateful, in the light of this, if you would make known the contents of this letter to the President.

One of the major issues confronting all of us today is the Russian occupation of Afghanistan. It is a matter of grave concern.

I am however heartened by the positive attitude taken on this issue by President Reagan and the British Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher. I hope that the people and governments of the West will take effective steps to preserve the integrity of Afghanistan, and its independence.

I personally have been taking an active interest in this issue and was instrumental in forging, in 1979, a United Front of the Afghan Mujahedeen under the name of the Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan. Recently we ensured that the leader of this Alliance, Mr A.R. Siaf, was able to address the

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Heads of State in Taif. His address made an impact on the Conference.

The role of Pakistan vis-a-vis Afghanistan is vital and its stability of paramount importance. I am sure you are aware of the situation and that the American Administration will take all steps necessary to further the cause of the Afghan Mujahedeen who are operating from bases in that country. Pakistan is now a frontline State and the main bulwark against the spread of Communism to the Gulf countries. It faces a grim situation, both externally and internally, since it is clear that Leftist elements in Pakistan are trying to stir up trouble in the country.

It is our hope that the cooperation and support of the United States for Pakistan in military and economic fields will take tangible shape and will help to strengthen this country in its stand against the imperialist Communist challenge.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

WASHINGTON, DC 20270

December 18, 1980

Mr. Salem Azzam
Secretary General
International Islamic Council
16 Grosvenor Crescent
London SWI 7EP
England

Dear Mr. Azzam:

I greatly appreciate your recent letter and enclosures and apologize for not responding sooner. As I am certain you can understand, the past several days have been extremely hectic ones.

The President-elect and I welcome your willingness to assist in the promotion and furtherance of understanding between the Muslim world and the West and look forward to an on-going exchange in that regard.

Thank you, again, for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Richard V. Allen

Richard V. Allen
Senior Advisor

المجلس الإسلامي الدولي
International Islamic Council

28 November 1980

President-Elect Ronald Reagan,
c/o The White House,
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue,
Washington DC 20500

Dear President-Elect,

On my own behalf and on behalf of the Islamic Council, I congratulate you on your overwhelming victory and wish you equal success in your new office which carries immense national and international responsibilities. May God Almighty guide you to discharge those responsibilities with courage, justice, compassion and equity.

In your letter of July 28, 1980, in reply to mine of July 8, you stated that "the United States is greatly interested in gaining a deeper understanding of the vital movement of Islam". This is an encouraging sign and augers well for the future of good relations between the United States and the Muslim world. In your letter you were also kind enough to mention that I should not hesitate to offer any advice or information which would further the cause of such understanding.

I, therefore, take this opportunity to offer a humble suggestion. In the past, the feelings and aspirations of Muslim peoples have often been misunderstood. I feel that the reason for this has been the reliance on bureaucratic agencies who do not have close contact with or real understanding of the masses. A case in point is Iran. You will recall that only three weeks before the mass uprising against the late Shah's regime, your predecessor was toasting in Tehran the Shah's great leadership, and the love, affection and respect that the people of Iran had for him. He went so far as to stress that Iran under the Shah was an island of stability in the troubled region. The fact is that the CIA, SAVAK, the diplomatic missions and other Western intelligence agencies were unable to guage and assess correctly the extent and intensity of anti-Shah feelings held by the people of Iran.

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I, therefore, suggest for your consideration that the United States Government establish a Standing Advisory Committee of non-governmental officials to monitor and establish the true feelings and aspirations of the peoples of the Muslim world.

Lest I be misunderstood, the Islamic Council has no desire to be represented on the proposed committee. However, should the committee wish at any time to consult with the Islamic Council on major issues and events in the Muslim world, we would be happy to oblige. Being in close and constant touch with the Islamic movements and real representatives of public opinion, we like to think that the Islamic Council reflects peoples' true feelings and aspirations. The unbiased and true facts obtained by the committee would be useful, in my opinion, in formulating policies and approaches beneficial to the cause of understanding between the peoples of the United States and the Muslim world. The time has come when, in order to avoid antagonism, we must find ways and means to liaise and cooperate on an equal basis of respect and consideration.

In conclusion, I once again congratulate you and wish you all success in your efforts and plans for world peace based on justice, progress and prosperity.

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

المجلس الإسلامي الدولي
International Islamic Council

28 November 1980

Mr Richard Allen,
Republican National Committee,
1st Street South East,
Washington DC

Dear Mr Allen,

Firstly, I should like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the victory of the Republican Party in the United States' Presidential Elections.

I should like also to put you in the picture on my correspondence with President-Elect Reagan.

In July this year I wrote to President-Elect Reagan, sending him a copy of the Universal Islamic Declaration, published by the Islamic Council. This document, described by The Times of London as "the first declaration in modern times of the fundamentals of Islam", was prepared by distinguished Muslim scholars, statesmen and leading figures of Islamic movements in an attempt to serve both as a guide and a plan of action for Muslims and Muslim organisations for the establishment of Islamic order enjoined by Islam and as an aid to non-Muslims in understanding the goals and aspirations which underlie the contemporary resurgence of Islam. It was presented to a huge multi-national audience at an international conference, organised by the Islamic Council and held in London in April 1980, and was widely acclaimed, as it was subsequently by the Islamic Foreign Ministers at their annual conference held this year in Islamabad.

The Declaration has already been printed in English, Arabic, French and Urdu and work is in hand to produce it in several other languages. We have distributed it widely throughout the world and have been much gratified by its reception by leaders of the Western, as well as the Muslim, world. A copy is enclosed for yourself, together with a copy of President-Elect Reagan's letter to me on the subject.

To keep in touch, as President-Elect Reagan suggested, and as I believe to be useful in the interests of the Muslim people and the people of the United States, and indeed the Western

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world as a whole, I have written a further letter to the President-Elect and have pleasure in enclosing also a copy of this for your information.

The Islamic Council, whose aims are the promotion and furtherance of understanding between the Muslim world and the West, would be happy to undertake any task which would aid the cause of understanding and develop a just solution to the issues which are important not only to the Muslim peoples but to the security of the whole world. It is my hope that we may remain in contact with, and develop our channels of communication with, the new Administration in the United States to further these aims.

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

RONALD REAGAN

July 28, 1980

Mr. Salem Azzam
Islamic Council of Europe
16 Grosvenor Crescent
London SW 1 7EP
United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Azzam:

I am honored to receive your message of July 8.

The United States is greatly interested in gaining a deeper understanding of the vital movement of Islam. Therefore, your kindness in sending the Universal Islamic Declaration is much appreciated. As you remarked in your letter, such exchange of information is a step towards greater cooperation and friendship between the Muslim world and the West, the United States in particular.

Please do not hesitate to send any further information or advice that you feel would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

RONALD REAGAN

9841 AIRPORT BOULEVARD, SUITE 1430, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90045

Reagan for President - United States Senator Paul Laxalt, Chairman; Pat Buchanan, Treasurer.
A copy of our report is filed with and available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463